

The WTCL is one of the oldest community organizations in the city and under the strong leadership of Ms. Lauro the organization took on a variety of pressing issues facing the community. These included fighting for more police officers—a 10 year battle to shut down a drug and prostitution infested OTB parlor—and the completion of a study that resulted in new zoning regulation for motels in residential areas.

Mary established strong relationships with neighboring communities and worked closely with the Woodlawn Taxpayers Association. In addition, Mary was a former member of Community Board 12, an active parishioner at Saint Francis of Rome, a member of the Wakefield Civilian Patrol and the Safe Way/Safe Home Program, and a participant in the 47th Precinct Community Council who held multiple positions throughout her membership.

Although we lost Mary last year to her battle with lung cancer, my wife and I will fondly remember Mary, as she was truly one of a kind. I remember her from the beginning of my career, over 40 years ago. She was a constant in the community—it was her whole life, and the community was like her own family. She lived a full life and will be sorely missed.

Last December the New York City Council voted to honor Mary Lauro by re-naming the street she used to live on for more than 50 years as “Mary V. Lauro Way.”

Mary's dedication to improving the community and the lives of its inhabitants through her various public service efforts will hopefully inspire and remind residents of her legacy and I am proud to be a part of the celebration of a woman who had brought so much progress to a community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 9, 2014 I was not present for 3 votes. I wish to submit my intentions had I been present to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 272, I would have voted “yea”; had I been present for rollcall No. 273, I would have voted “no”; had I been present for rollcall No. 274, I would have voted “no.”

HONORING SHANNON MATHEW

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Shannon Mathew, a graduating senior from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School who has received the Miami VA Healthcare System's James H. Parke Memorial Fund Youth Scholarship for her commitment to the veterans of South Florida. As a public servant and the son of a World War II veteran whose bravery motivated me to serve in Congress, I am so proud of Shannon's dedication to our community.

Shannon has devoted every summer of high school volunteering at the Physical Medicine

and Rehab Unit of the William “Bill” Kling VA Clinic. In addition to providing encouragement, emotional support and a warm smile to all the veterans receiving treatment at the clinic, Shannon also assists administratively in keeping the physical therapy department running smoothly. Her supervisors describe her as spirited and helpful and veterans seeking treatment at the center have said that her presence encourages them to push through their pain. Shannon will begin her undergraduate career at the University of Florida this fall and plans to volunteer at the VA clinic in Gainesville in her spare time.

Representing a district home to veterans of every major conflict since World War II, I know very well the sacrifices that our military men and women and their families have made for our country and the importance of honoring them. Shannon Mathew's passion for serving our veterans is an inspiration to me and my district, and I have no doubt that she has a bright future in store.

RECOGNIZING MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT AT ROGER DEAN STADIUM

HON. PATRICK MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Military Appreciation Night at Roger Dean Stadium in Jupiter, Florida. This event serves to honor and recognize all those who serve and who have served in our military to protect our great nation. The event will be held the day before Independence Day when we celebrate our nation's freedom, which we owe to the men and women who serve in our Armed Forces. The Stadium will hold a ceremony recognizing veterans on the field and present a special color guard for the occasion. This event allows us to demonstrate our respect for the men and women who serve in our military and all that they do for us and our country, and to honor those who sacrificed everything and lost their lives in the line of duty. This event allows us not only to celebrate our nation's freedom and independence but also to remember all those who don a uniform signifying the protection of our country's citizens by means of protecting our freedoms.

Over Memorial Day weekend, I was humbled to have had the opportunity to spend this most solemn holiday with our troops stationed in Afghanistan. A few weeks later, I was honored to greet local veterans at the World War II Memorial while they were on their Honor Flight to D.C. for the 70th Anniversary of D-Day. From active duty to WWII veterans, our country is forever indebted to the sacrifices they have made in service to our nation. From an unacceptable benefits claim backlog, mistreatment at the VA, and the disgraceful high rates of unemployment, homelessness, and suicide among our nation's heroes, it is clear that our nation has been failing these heroes once they return home. We must—and will—do better.

That is why I have been pleased to see bipartisan support for my efforts to help reduce the backlog and increase mental health and suicide prevention efforts for our veterans. I hope to see the same support for my recent

proposals to reduce the appeals claims backlog and expand educational opportunities for veterans and military families. Our nation's heroes should not have to wait years to receive the benefits they have earned or have to fight for a job after fighting for our nation and these common sense proposals will help address these serious issues, reassuring our veterans, troops, and their families that we will be there for them as they have been there for our nation.

While we rededicate ourselves to better serving our veterans, troops, and military families, we must do so always remembering the ultimate sacrifice that many of their comrades, friends, and families made for our nation. This is one of the best ways we can pay tribute to our fallen heroes, including the 18th District's own Marine Corps Corporal Ian T. Zook of Port St. Lucie, Army Captain Adam P. Snyder of Fort Pierce, Marine Corps Lance Corporal Justin J. Wilson of Palm City, Army Specialist Jordan C. Schumann of Port St. Lucie, Navy Chief Petty Officer Aaron C. Vaughn of Stuart, and Army Sergeant Justin R. Johnson of Hobe Sound. All of these men were selfless heroes whose sacrifices will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, as Military Appreciation Night is recognized at Roger Dean Stadium, I encourage my colleagues to join me and the residents of Jupiter, Florida in pausing to appreciate all that these brave men and women have done for our country by encouraging similar local events of recognition across the nation.

HONORING JOHN H. GLOSE, JR.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize John H. Glose, Jr., who will be honored at the 6th annual Mount Mercy Academy 5K Race in Buffalo, New York for his admirable community involvement and dedication to Mount Mercy Academy.

John has played sports since grammar school, and pursued soccer, volleyball, and track through high school and college teams. After earning his bachelor's degree in 2005 and a master's degree in 2010, John translated his passion to volunteer coaching and cultivating the talents of young people.

John serves as a vital part of the Erie II BOCES Baker Road Alternative High School as a Physical Education and Health teacher. Here, John founded the Goodwill Transition Basketball League that gives the students at alternative high schools a chance to be a part of a school basketball team and learn the life lessons that team sports can teach them.

In addition to these commitments, John was the Head Coach of the varsity soccer, basketball and tennis teams at Mount Mercy Academy. At Mount Mercy, he conceived of and implemented the Wounded Warrior Game to raise awareness of the sacrifices of members of the armed forces. This endeavor has raised over \$5,000 for the Wounded Warrior Project Foundation.

Among the teams lucky enough to receive his guidance are the travel soccer teams of the South Buffalo Soccer Club, Mount Mercy basketball teams' summer leagues, and Mount